

MS#302405.4 (5023)  
PATENT**Amendments to the Claims:**

Claims 1-15. (canceled)

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Claim 16. (currently amended) A computer implemented [[a]] method of operation on one or more data processing machines, the method comprising:

determining whether a first document collection comprises at least one document linked to at least one other document of at least one other second document collection;

determining a collection rating according to a rating scale for each of said at least one other second document collection if said first document collection is determined to comprise at least one document linked to at least one other document of at least one other second document collection, said collection rating according to the rating scale for each of said at least one other second document collection relating to a desirability of a content of said at least one other second document collection;

determining whether said first document collection comprises at least one document being linked by at least one other document of at least one other third document collection;

determining a collection rating according to said rating scale for each of said at least one other third document collection if said first document collection is determined to comprise at least one document linked by at least one other third document collection, said collection rating according to the rating scale for each of said at least one other third document collection rating relating to a desirability of a content of said at least one other third document collection; and

determining a link rating according to said rating scale for said first document collection based on either said determined collection rating or ratings according to said rating scale for said at least one other second document collection, or said determined collection rating or ratings according to said rating scale for said at least one other third document collection, or both, depending on whether collection rating or ratings are determined according to said rating scale for said at least one other second document collection, said at least one other third document collection or both.

Claim 17. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein each of said determining of a collection rating according to said rating scale for each of said at least one other second or third document collection comprises determining document ratings according to said

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rating scale for documents of the particular document collection, and sizes of the documents, and determining the collection rating for the particular document collection based on the determined document ratings and the determined sizes.

Claim 18. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein said determining of a link rating comprises summing said collection rating or ratings determined according to said rating scale for said at least one other second or third document collection, and determining the link rating based on the result of said summing.

Claim 19. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein said determining of the link rating based on the result of said summing comprises determining the link rating based on the result of said summing as follows:

The resulting sum (RS)	Link rating
RS less than -2	-1.0
RS greater than or equal to -2, but less than -1	-0.5
RS greater than or equal to -1, but less than or equal to -0.5	0
RS greater than -0.5, but less than or equal to 1.5	0.5
RS greater than 1/5, but less than or equal to 3	1.0
RS greater than 3, but less than or equal to 4	1.5

Claims 20-34. (canceled)

Claim 35. (currently amended) A computer implemented ~~[[an]]~~ apparatus comprising: storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming instructions designed to enable said apparatus to

determine whether a first document collection comprises at least one document linked to at least one other document of at least one other ~~document of at least one other~~ second document collection,

determine a collection rating according to a rating scale for each of said at least

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one other second document collection if said first document collection is determined to comprise at least one document linked to at least one other document of at least one other second document collection, said collection rating according to the rating scale for each of said at least one other second document collection relating to a desirability of a content of said at least one other second document collection,

determine whether said first document collection comprises at least one document being linked by at least one other document of at least one other third document collection,

determine a collection rating according to said rating scale for each of said at least one other third document collection if said first document collection is determined to comprise at least one document linked by at least one other third document collection, said collection rating according to the rating scale for each of said at least one other third document collection relating to a desirability of a content of said at least one other third document collection, and

determine a link rating according to said rating scale for said first document collection based on either said determined collection rating or ratings according to said rating scale for said at least one other second document collection, or said determined collection rating or ratings according to said rating scale for said at least one other third document collection, or both, depending on whether collection rating or ratings are determined according to said rating scale for said at least one other second document collection, said at least one other third document collection or both; and

at least one processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the programming instructions.

**Claim 36. (previously presented)** The apparatus of claim 35, wherein said programming instructions are designed to enable the apparatus to perform each of said determining of a collection rating according to said rating scale for each of said at least one other second or third document collection by determining document ratings according to said rating scale for documents of the particular document collection, and sizes of the documents, and determining the collection rating for the particular document collection based on the determined document ratings and the determined sizes.

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**Claim 37. (previously presented)** The apparatus of claim 35, wherein said programming instructions are designed to enable the apparatus to perform said determining of a link rating by summing said collection rating or ratings determined according to said rating scale for said at least one other second or third document collection, and determining the link rating based on the result of said summing.

**Claim 38. (original)** The apparatus of claim 37, wherein said programming instructions are designed to enable the apparatus to perform said determining of the link rating based on the result of said summing by determining the link rating based on the result of said summing as follows:

The result of said summing (RS)	link rating
RS less than -2	-1.0
RS greater than or equal to -2, but less than -1	-0.5
RS greater than or equal to -1, but less than or equal to -0.5	0
RS greater than -0.5, but less than or equal to 1.5	0.5
RS greater than 1.5, but less than or equal to 3	1.0
RS greater than 3, but less than or equal to 4	1.5
RS greater than 4	2.0